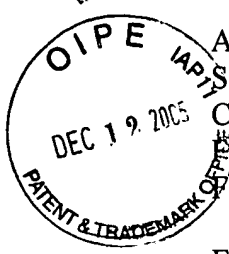


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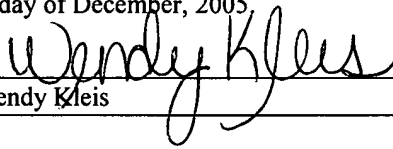
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant: Frederick Wilkins, et al.  
Serial No: 10/712,674  
Confirmation No: 9082  
Filed: November 13, 2003  
For: WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD  
  
Examiner: Phasge, Arun S.  
Art Unit: 1753

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 9th day of December, 2005.

  
Wendy Kleis

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

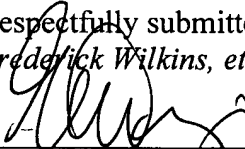
Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449 and Cited Reference
- ☒ Search Report and Written Opinion from corresponding International Application No. PCT/US2004/038106
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

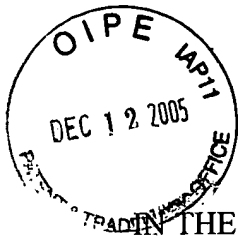
If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 395-7000.

A check is not enclosed. If a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50/0214. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Frederick Wilkins, et al., Applicants*

By:   
Peter C. Lando, Reg. No. 34,654  
Elias Domingo, Reg. No. 52,827  
LOWRIE, LANDO & ANASTASI, LLP  
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Date: December 9, 2005



DOCKET NO: I0168-7075.19

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

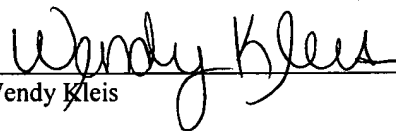
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Wendy Kleis

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**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF  
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

**PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97**

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified case.

No fee or certification is required.

**PART II: Information Cited**

Applicants hereby make of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

Applicants hereby make the following additional information of record in the above-identified application.

Applicants would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the enclosed Search Report and Written Opinion from corresponding International Application No.: PCT/US2004/038106.

Applicants would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the following other information, whose relevance is discussed in Part III below:

PART III: Explanation of Non-English Language References and Remarks Concerning Other Information Cited

The following is a concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified):

JP 11-42483 is directed to a mineral water regulator. An English Abstract is enclosed.

PART IV: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants make no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by Applicants, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

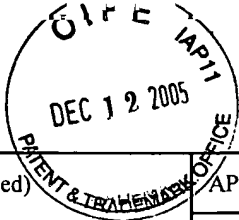
An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Frederick Wilkins et al., Applicants*

By: 

Peter C. Lando, Reg. No. 34,654  
Elias Domingo, Reg. No. 52,827  
LOWRIE, LANDO & ANASTASI, LLP  
Riverfront Office Park  
One Main Street  
Cambridge, MA 02142  
(617) 395-7000

Date: December 9, 2005



<b>FORM PTO-1449/A and B (Modified)</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				APPLICATION NO.: 10/712,674		ATTY. DOCKET NO.: 10168-7075.19	
				FILING DATE: November 13, 2003		CONFIRMATION NO.: 9082	
				APPLICANT: Frederick Wilkins et al.			
				GROUP ART UNIT: 1753		EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1				

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or of issue of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code		

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document (not necessary)	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Translation (Y/N)
		Office/ Country	Number	Kind Code			
		JP	11-42483		Sharp Corp.	02-16-1999	

#### OTHER ART — NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS) title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, relevant page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation (Y/N)	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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#EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

\*a copy of this reference is not provided because the reference is a published U.S. Patent or U.S. Patent application and the present application was filed after June 30, 2003.